

On behalf of his wife Lois of 31 years, his seven children, his seven grandchildren, the State of Michigan and myself, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge his excellent service, dedication, winning personality and commitment to those with whom he worked. Again, I extend my warmest congratulations to him on his retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO JESSIE TRICE

● Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to salute one of Florida's most dedicated health care service providers. On October 17, 1998, the Economic Opportunity Family Health Center of Miami both honored and said farewell to their President and CEO, Ms. Jessie Trice. Ms. Trice's retirement concludes a career of more than thirty years devoted to the improvement of health care services in under privileged communities throughout both Florida and the nation. She is a true humanitarian, and has been locally and nationally recognized for her tireless advocacy on behalf of the affordable and accessible services primary care centers provide vulnerable populations. Because of her efforts, these centers have garnered support at all levels of government, and they remain a vitally important force in the health care continuum of needy communities.

Jessie Trice is both a community leader and policy maker. Her distinguished resume includes positions as Public Health Nurse Supervisor and Chief of Nursing Services at the Dade County Department of Public Health, Executive Director of the Visiting Nurses Association, and Assistant County Nursing Director of the Children and Youth Project. Her service as the Chairwoman of the Health Choice Network, Inc., the Screening Committee of the National Association of Community Health Care Centers, and the Legislative Committee of the Florida Council of Primary Care Centers, as well as her membership on the Board of Directors of the Primary Care Centers, Inc., are a testament to her superb leadership abilities.

In 1970, President Richard Nixon recognized Ms. Trice's outstanding contributions and proven expertise in this field by appointing her to serve as a delegate to the White House Conference of Children. She was named Florida Nurse of the Year in both 1972 and 1984, and made Distinguished Honoree by the Academy of Black Women in the Health Professions. She has been named to the lists of "Who's Who" for Health Care Professionals, American Women, and American Business Leaders.

Mr. President, the list of those who support and admire the work of Jessie Trice is long and distinguished. I am grateful for the work she has done on behalf of the state of Florida, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending my congratulations for her thirty years of service in the field of health

care services. May her examples of dedication and hard work continue to be of inspiration to others.●

NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a tremendous accomplishment. Middle School South in Harrison Township, Michigan, has been selected as a Michigan Exemplary School and a National Blue Ribbon School for 1997-98.

Middle School South of the L'Anse Creuse Public Schools, was one of two schools in the State of Michigan bestowed the honor of National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. This selection is a tribute to the time and effort that the parents, administrators, teachers and students have put into building an excellent learning environment. This prestigious award demonstrates what hard work and commitment can produce.

Again, congratulations to all the teachers and students at South Middle School and the entire L'Anse Creuse Public School District. This is a distinguished award, and they deserve it. I wish them continued prosperity, and many more years of success.●

CONFERENCE REPORT FOR S. 1260, THE SECURITIES LITIGATION UNIFORM STANDARDS ACT

● Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, the House has now passed the Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act of 1998. The premise for this federal law is a workable and protective federal standard. Throughout the legislative process, we have been careful to ensure that the pleading standard rules developed by the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit would continue to govern. The Administration, the Securities and Exchange Commission and Congress, which have worked together on this legislation, have all agreed on that standard. As the Conference Report and Statement of Managers makes clear, the recklessness standard and Second Circuit pleading rules continue in force. Indeed, the managers reiterated that the 1995 Private Securities Litigation Reform Act reinforced these standards, which continue to govern under the 1998 Act, as well. As a member of the Judiciary Committee and serving now as its ranking member, I am well aware that artificially high pleading standards could create unwanted and unneeded barriers to legitimate cases. That is not the intent of this legislation and should not be its effect.●

COMMENDATION TO THE CURATOR OF THE CAPITOL, BARBARA WOLANIN

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I rise to recognize the tremendous work accomplished by Barbara Wolanin, the Curator of the Capitol, in preparing the

excellent book on the art in the Capitol created by Constantino Brumidi. The Curator did a magnificent job writing and editing the many articles and photographs which depict the works of the Italian artist, Constantino Brumidi, who was the principal artist of the Capitol. The book was compiled under the direction of the Architect of the Capitol, and Dr. Wolanin had the assistance of many of her colleagues and fellow employees in the Curator's office. So I would like to commend them all on the excellent quality of this book which will enable many to read about the numerous and exquisite works of painting, sculpture and architecture which Constantino Brumidi created to cover the walls and ceilings of the Capitol.

I would also like to recommend this excellent artistic book to all of my colleagues and to the many others who will visit the Capitol. The book is at the Senate and U. S. Capitol Historical Society gift shops.

Constantino Brumidi: Artist of the Capitol

The new congressional publication, Constantino Brumidi: Artist of the Capitol, was authorized by the 103rd Congress (S. Con. Res. 40) as part of the celebration of the bicentennial of the construction of the Capitol. The book, prepared under the direction of Architect George M. White and completed under Architect Alan M. Hantman, has taken a number of years to research, write, illustrate, edit, and design. The book is richly illustrated, primarily with photographs taken by the Architect of the Capitol Photography Branch. It is intended to be valuable to those visiting and working in the Capitol as well as to specialists, and it should enhance the appreciation and understanding of the building's mural decoration for years to come.

Brumidi painted murals in the Capitol between 1855 and 1880, contributing greatly to the beauty and unique symbolic character of the Rotunda and of many rooms and corridors. Brumidi had great skill in making the figures he painted on a flat surface look three dimensional; he created rooms where the decoration goes from floor to ceiling. He was also a master in using rich and vibrant color. His murals pay tribute to American history, technological achievements, and values.

Brumidi's Capitol murals, including the canopy and the frieze, the House and Senate Appropriations Committee Rooms, the President's Room, the Senate Reception Room, and the Brumidi Corridors, are the major focus. The book also gives an overview of his career, including his training and work in Rome. It was primarily envisioned and written by Dr. Barbara Wolanin, Curator for the Architect of the Capitol, who has overseen the conservation of Brumidi's murals. The book would not have been possible without the assistance of many on her staff, especially photographer Wayne Firth. The book includes chapters by a number of other

experts, including the Architectural Historian for the Architect, William Allen, historian Pellegrino Nazzaro, art historian Francis V. O'Connor, and conservators Bernard Rabin, Constance Silver, Christiana Cunningham-Adams and George W. Adams, to provide additional perspectives. The book includes information about other painters working with Brumidi, a chronology of Brumidi's life and work, and a list of known works by him. The Government Printing Office is to be commended for the special care it took in the design and printing.

REAUTHORIZATION OF THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, the Surface Transportation Board (STB) was established in 1996 by act of Congress as a quasi-independent body within the Department of Transportation. The STB adjudicates disputes and regulates interstate surface transportation including the restructuring of railroad lines.

Although the authorization of the STB expired this year, a reauthorization bill has not been scheduled. It was my intention to offer an amendment to the reauthorization relating to railroad lines, or at least engage in a colloquy with the manager of the bill. However, because no amendments, or even colloquies, will be agreed to by the managers of the reauthorization of the STB, I offer these comments for the record.

It is my understanding that under section 10901 of title 49 of the U.S. Code, relating to the construction and operation of railroad lines, the STB is required to issue a certificate authorizing the construction or extension of a railroad line, unless it finds that such activity is "inconsistent with the public convenience and necessity."

Because the construction of railroad lines can cause significant adverse environmental impacts such as noise, safety and quality of life on local communities, my amendment would have sought to direct the STB to require applicants for the construction or extension of railroad lines to use all reasonable means to route them away from population centers in compliance with the above provision.

Although I am disappointed that I will not be able to offer my amendment, I have been assured by the Chairman of the Surface Transportation Board that "regardless of whether or not language is inserted into our reauthorization bill, the Board must, and will, consider local interests in assessing the DM&E construction case."

Mr. President, I appreciate Chairman Morgan's assurances, and I look forward to working with the STB on this and other issues in the next Congress.●

THE OCEANS ACT OF 1998

• Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I rise in support of the Oceans Act of 1998 and

several other fisheries issues included in the legislation. In addition to the Oceans Act, this bill approves the Governing International Fishery Agreements between the government of the United States and the governments of the Republics of Lithuania and Estonia. These agreements will permit large processing vessels from these countries to enter the United States Exclusive Economic Zone and process fish caught by U.S. fishermen in fisheries where American processors have insufficient capacity. These privileges have been authorized this year for vessels of Poland and Latvia as well. I support these agreements because they provide needed markets for American fishermen to sell their catch. However, I believe we have inadvertently worked an injustice upon a large U.S. vessel, the *Atlantic Star*.

The *Atlantic Star* is a U.S.-owned, U.S. flag fishing vessel that was refitted last year for the herring and mackerel fisheries off the East Coast. The vessel had received all necessary permits to enter these fisheries. Because the Regional Fishery Management Councils had not then developed plans or plan amendments addressing the entry of large vessels into these fisheries, Congress enacted an appropriations rider which voided the permits for this specific vessels and imposed a one-year moratorium on the entry of the *Atlantic Star* into any U.S. fishery in order to give the Councils time to examine the issue. Meanwhile, the vessel has had to leave the United States in order to operate at all.

The Councils held hearings and carefully reviewed the issues. Recently, the Mid-Atlantic Council recommended size limitations on large harvesting vessels engaged in the mackerel fishery, but has not decided to extend similar limitations to processing vessels. This would allow U.S. flag vessels, such as the *Atlantic Star* to process fish caught by U.S. fishermen, just as the foreign flag vessels we are allowing in today will be able to do. By providing another market for U.S. fishermen it would also provide employment and economic benefits to the region. Moreover, unlike foreign vessels, U.S. flag processing vessels must pay U.S. income taxes, employ Americans and are subject to U.S. labor and environmental laws, requirements that benefit all Americans.

Unfortunately, during deliberations on the Commerce-Justice-State Appropriations Act of 1999, which will be included in the Omnibus Appropriations bill for 1999, the Senate accepted language creating a blanket exclusion of the *Atlantic Star*. We are now in the awkward position of authorizing the entry of foreign vessels to process U.S.-caught fish, while excluding our own U.S. processing vessels. Ironically, if the *Atlantic Star* were to give up her U.S. flag and operate under Lithuanian or Estonian flag, she could come into the United States and operate as a processing vessel in these U.S. fish-

eries, free from U.S. income tax, employing all foreign crew and exempt from other U.S. laws.

I support the development of our American fishing industry, while ensuring the long-term health and management of the resource. The principles of the Magnuson-Stevens Act—the primary fisheries law of the land—long ago established the priority to be afforded American vessels to harvest and process fish inside the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone. Excluding U.S. processing vessels in the face of the Council's contrary judgment and while allowing foreign processing vessels into the same fishery does a disservice, not only to American catcher-vessel fishermen who seek markets for the fish and to the crew and owners of the *Atlantic Star*, but to all Americans. Frankly, it is a policy that simply makes no sense. I hope my colleagues will join me in revisiting this issue early in the new Congress.●

THE DAMAGE OF HURRICANE GEORGES IN PUERTO RICO

• Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, as you know, hurricane Georges recently caused great damage to the island of Puerto Rico. I would like to take this opportunity to personally express my sympathies to those who suffered loss due to this natural disaster. I would also like to clear up some confusion regarding the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the federal agency currently working to alleviate the pain and suffering caused by the hurricane.

I recently learned that erroneous reports regarding the funding of FEMA have been circulating in Puerto Rico. A few elected officials in the commonwealth have stated to the press that funding for the FEMA program is obtained from local taxes and user fees within Puerto Rico. These reports are simply not true.

On the contrary, the Appropriations Subcommittee on VA, HUD and Independent Agencies has sole jurisdiction over the funding of FEMA, and the funds appropriated by the committee come from the general fund. The general fund is composed of the collection of federal taxes and user fees from tax-paying citizens of the United States.

The United States Congress is committed to continuing our efforts to aid our fellow American citizens in Puerto Rico in their time of need. We will continue to seek additional emergency disaster relief funding for FEMA before Congress adjourns.●

SECURITIES LITIGATION UNIFORM STANDARDS ACT OF 1998

• Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I strongly supported Senate passage of the conference report on S. 1260, the Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act of 1998. This bill extends the efforts which we undertook in 1995 to curb abusive securities class action